

Drug Administration Amendments Bill" (H.R. 3580).

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. THADDEUS G. McCOTTER

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 24, 2007

Mr. McCOTTER. Madam Speaker, had I been present for the vote on H.R. 3580, I would have supported this legislation. Unfortunately, I was meeting with the President of the United States during the time the vote was held.

RECOGNIZING THE FORT PIERCE ELKS LODGE 1520

HON. TIM MAHONEY

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 24, 2007

Mr. MAHONEY of Florida. Madam Speaker, it is my pleasure to rise today to recognize the members of the Fort Pierce Elks Lodge 1520 in Fort Pierce, FL, for their contributions to our service men and women and to congratulate the Lodge for the commendation they have received within the Elks community.

Over the past 3 years, the Fort Pierce Elks Lodge has implemented an outstanding veteran's services program. Through their overseas military outreach program, "Operation Desert Elk," the Lodge collects various sundry items and creates care packages for troops in Afghanistan and Iraq. These packages provide a touch of home for our brave soldiers who are serving in such hostile environments. To date, over 1,400 packages valued at over \$50,000 have been mailed overseas.

At home, the Lodge provides ongoing support to our hospitalized veterans at the West Palm Beach, FL, Veteran's Affairs Medical Center and at local State nursing homes. Clothing, books, and board games as well as monetary donations to support recreational therapy programs are provided on a continual basis. The Lodge has also adopted veterans in nursing homes and provided visitation, greeting cards and meals.

I am honored to recognize the exceptional individuals who make up the membership of the Fort Pierce Elks Lodge 1520 and the incredible services they provide for our service men and veterans.

FORMER YUGOSLAV REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA

HON. ROBERT WEXLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 24, 2007

Mr. WEXLER. Madam Speaker, a little over twelve years ago, on September 13, 1995, Clinton Administration officials played a critical role in addressing a pressing issue in the Balkans and Europe. With American-led mediation, our longstanding friend, ally and strategic partner Greece signed an Interim Accord at the United Nations in New York with the

newly-established former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, a state that emerged from the disintegration of former Yugoslavia.

This agreement paved the way for the normalization of relations between Greece and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia. Following the signing of this Interim Accord, Greece, like the United States, strongly supported the newly established state, both politically and economically. Greece fully backed FYROM's aspirations to join the key institutions of the European and Euro-Atlantic community, and Greece became the number one investor in that country, with \$1.1 billion invested capital.

Unfortunately, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia has not fully reciprocated these gestures and I am concerned about unacceptable propaganda impugning Greece's history and cultural heritage. It is critical that Skopje address this propaganda and show increased flexibility during the ongoing U.N. negotiations, with a view to finding a mutually acceptable solution on the name issue. Resolution of this issue is not just a bilateral issue with Greece, but has regional and international dimensions.

As Chairman of the Europe Subcommittee in the House Committee on Foreign Affairs, I have been working in a bipartisan fashion with the subcommittee's ranking member, Congressman ELTON GALLEGLY to support efforts to resolve this long-standing issue, including introducing House Resolution 356. This resolution expresses the sense of this House that the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (FYROM) should not violate provisions of the United Nations-brokered Interim Agreement between the FYROM and Greece regarding "hostile activities or propaganda" and should work with the United Nations and Greece to achieve longstanding United States and United Nations policy goals of finding a mutually-acceptable official name for the FYROM.

House Resolution 356 already has 73 cosponsors and I would urge my colleagues in the House of Representatives to cosponsor this resolution and urge authorities in Skopje to join Athens and meet their obligations deriving from the U.S.-brokered Interim Accord.

HONORING THE LIFE AND SPIRIT OF JOYCE SNOWFEATHER MAHANEY AS THE 20TH AMERICAN INDIAN INTERTRIBAL ASSOCIATION POWWOW IS CELEBRATED

HON. MARCY KAPTUR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 24, 2007

Ms. KAPTUR. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize the life and spirit of Joyce Snowfeather Mahaney who, on June 23, 2006, passed from this life at the age of 59 years and "started her westward journey."

Joyce Mahaney was born January 31st, 1947 on the Turtle Mountain Reservation in North Dakota of Chippewa parents, Alexander and Mary Frederick. Joyce was given the Indian Name "Snowfeather" as she was born during a snowstorm. Her father died when she was a toddler and her mother and other tribal members raised her. Inquisitive and always proud of her American Indian heritage, Joyce was well-schooled in the Tribal Customs and

Laws. After completing high school on the Reservation, she attended Minot State College where she completed a Baccalaureate Degree in Education with a Minor in Library Science and Sociology. While in college, she met Russell Mahaney whom she later married, and they eventually moved to Toledo, Ohio, where she remained for over 30 years and raised her family.

Although Joyce moved from the Reservation, she didn't leave it. She continued to have close contact with elders, relatives and friends. Throughout her life she supported her Native American heritage, becoming a spokesperson for all tribes of Native Americans in the State of Ohio and in Michigan and Indiana, in preserving the culture and traditions. Joyce was designated as a Pipe Carrier from the Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa Indians in North Dakota which gave her permission from the elders of the tribe to conduct special religious and cultural services, including praying with Native Americans on death row. It is one of the highest honors provided to a member of a tribe.

In an effort to preserve all tribal cultures, Joyce established the American Indian Intertribal Association (AIIA) of Toledo in 1988. It was the first organization of its kind in Ohio and the Midwest, and she served as the Director until her death. Her daughter then assumed leadership. The primary mission of the organization is to preserve the Indian culture by conducting traditional pow-wows, presenting programs and educational opportunities, providing culturally sensitive awareness in drug and alcohol prevention and participating in cultural events within the community as well as training through workshops and seminars. A further goal is to educate the general public about Native American cultural traditions, the desecration of Indian burial sites, and the exploitation of sacred ceremonies and cultural identities. In addition, the AIIA provides workshops in the schools and with local community organizations to maintain open contact with social service agencies and participate in the community. Joyce worked with social service agencies in applying the Indian Child Welfare Act by ensuring that Indian children were placed in homes where they would be exposed to their culture.

Joyce was later instrumental in assisting in the expansion of the American Indian Intertribal Association's branch office in Cleveland as well as other Indian centers in Akron, Michigan and Indiana. Although she was Chippewa, she was an advocate for all members of all Tribes and Nations. Throughout her life, Joyce served as an activist in the preservation of her cultural heritage and traditions. She was active in the preservation of sacred Indian burial grounds in Maumee, Ohio in the 1990's and frequently battled with archeologists and museums throughout Ohio regarding the application of NAGPRA (Native American Graves Repatriation Act) laws and the handling of Native American remains. Joyce was instrumental in the development of the 200th anniversary of the Battle of Fallen Timbers in which a stone monument was placed in remembrance of the warriors who lost their lives in the battle of 1794. There is currently activity underway by the City of Maumee to name a bridge in her honor at the sight of the Fallen Timbers Monument in which the Annual Summer Solstice Ceremony is held.

Joyce is a published author of two books and was working on a third at the time of her